

DAILY RECORD-UNION

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1888

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SAN FRANCISCO AGENCIES.

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TO-DAYS LEADING NEWS TOPICS.

The Democratic National Convention will be held July 1. The place is not yet named. San Francisco, Chicago and St. Louis have, so far, about equal strength in the contest for the Convention.

The President and party arrived at Jacksonville, Fla., yesterday.

A dynamite explosion at Duluth yesterday injured a man.

Last evening from Europe report the condition of the Crown Prince as favorable.

W. W. Corcoran, the Washington philanthropist, is not expected to survive many hours.

A number of towns in this State celebrated Washington's Birthday.

JUDGE HOFFMAN ON RESTRICTION.

Judge Ogden Hoffman, of the United States District Court at San Francisco, in a letter to Senator Stewart upon the question of Chinese restriction, says:

To show how execrable and systematic has been the description practiced upon us, I will mention that within the last few months nearly every paper in the country, for its purposes, and whom it was intended to favor, has been the herald of such horrors, with the abandonment of their cities by their consul. The injures of refusing any longer to recognize us, and the like, are the chief. I believe that by far the larger number of these cases are fraudulent, but the frauds are so skillfully and ingeniously "coached" on all points as to which they may be cross-examined that they usually escape detection. The Chinese Consul, and the District Attorney has very rarely any evidence to offer, and you will see—and perhaps Congress will see—how the Chinese are being treated by being the recognition of a right sought by us, is practically but a means of perpetuating frauds upon the law and the Courts.

This is very important testimony. Coming from the bench and addressed to a United States Senator in favor of his bill to absolutely shut the door against Chinese, it must have weighty influence with Congress. Judge Hoffman says that Judge Sawyer and himself are agreed that the Stewart bill ought to pass as a temporary measure pending the negotiation of a new treaty with China, in order that the present cloud of fraudulent stories may be cleared. The New York *Herald*, which discovered that there were but 381 Chinese brought into the country in 1887, should study that paragraph in Judge Hoffman's letter, in which he declares that a thousand cases would, within a few days after the writing of the letter, crowd his calendar, all being demands of Chinese for permission to land under the "previous residence" clause. This number, he adds, will augment by 500 a month, and, as a result, all other Court business must be put aside, or else these Chinese turned loose upon the world for an indefinite period.

A COMMITTEE from the State Board of Trade, a body entitled to respectful treatment, attended a meeting of the Directors of the Mechanics' Institute Tuesday night at San Francisco, to confer concerning the conflicting dates of the State Fair and Institute exhibitions. The committee was simply taken in and done for by shrewd Mr. Cornwall and his colleagues. It does not appear that the committee was allowed to say much or express itself upon the question of dates. It was made clear from the first that the committee was expected only to boost the Institute affair along, and that it was needed for nothing else whatever. The Institute Directors talked loudly and long of the greatness of their exhibition, and the great benefit it would be to the whole State to have a general exhibit made in it by all parts of the State. Thereupon the Board passed a resolution inviting the State Board of Trade to make a comprehensive exhibit of the resources of the State at the Institute fair, and all they could to secure representation of our products at both the State and Mechanics' fairs. Then the Board bowed the committee out, and according to the local press it is still puzzling its head to ascertain what it went to the meeting for and what it accomplished. No change of date was effected, nor was any even suggested aside from the Chairman's statement of the object of the visit. Now the chattering of the Institute people about the benefits of a comprehensive exhibit at their fair has nothing to do with the question. No one denies the benefit of the fairs, and the more there are, without conflict, and the better and larger their expositions, the more the interests of the State are concerned. But what is important, and that the Mechanics' Institute people stubbornly and "hoggishly" refuse to consider, is the question of dates. In heaven's name let the Institute get up as great a fair as they can. No one wishes to throw any obstacle in its way. But why is it necessary for that fair to so spread over the whole season, as to come into conflict with the dates of other and equally meritorious and important expositions? Cannot these selfish men of San Francisco see that they will more conserve the welfare of the State by so adjusting their dates as to bring it into line with the rest of the country?—*Valley*

EXPRESSIONS OF THE PRESS.

The talk about Hill as a Presidential candidate and about the sources of beat for Cleveland is a sheer nonsense. The Convention met, to-day, Cleveland was nominated with a hurrah. He may not be the strongest candidate, but he has got a good grip on the machine.—*Oakland Examiner*.

Dr. McLean and Henry George who have been chattering for the last twelve months or so, have had a split, and the whole world wonders how they ever ran in double harness for a single week.

It is probably to be found in the fact that each of all kinds assimilate—

ON HALF OF ITS EFFICIENCY.

One of the engines, from long use, had become so impaired that it was unfit for service. Some of the material necessary in the repair of the engine was not to be obtained in the East; it was lost in the freight when east of the Rockies and the machine was worthless for several weeks. It matters but little where a relief engine is located, but it would be required for service, but merely to take the place of any that may become disabled or are required to be repaired, so that we may have a relieved engine, it is only necessary to state that the relief engine belonging to this department within the past few months was in active service some six weeks. Had we not been able to secure the services of Sacramento's fire department, we would have been robbed for a month and a half.

THE TAX LEVY.

Regarding the estimate of the expense of the Fire Department for the coming year, and which was transmitted to the honorable Board of Trustees in accordance with existing laws, we have the following to add:

Mr. C. H. Morris, Secretary.

Mr. C. H.

